



News From MAIENstreet

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilman Brian Maienschein



March 2005

Volume 5 Issue 3

Proudly Representing the
District Five
Communities of:

Carmel Mountain Ranch

Mira Mesa

Rancho Bernardo

Sabre Springs

San Pasqual

Scripps Ranch

Sorrento Mesa

Sorrento Valley

Maienschein Secures Pothole Repairs

Since the recent rains flooded our communities, I noticed the appearance of many potholes. Not only are potholes uncomfortable to drive over, they can do costly damage to our tires and are a threat to public safety.

To address this problem, I directed my staff to drive the streets of each community and develop a comprehensive list of potholes that needed repair. I then directed the City Street Division to fill these potholes in one week.

I am pleased to report that the Street Division has filled each of the potholes—approximately 300 total! In addition, 3,497 square feet of asphalt was repaired. It is my hope that you notice a smoother, safer ride on your way to work, school or errands.

Although we hoped to find every pothole in our district, we may have missed a few. There are a couple of ways to report a pothole. You can call my office at (619) 236-6655 or contact the Street Division at (619) 527-7500. Potholes and other problems with our neighborhood roads can be reported online by accessing the Street Division web page at <http://www.sandiego.gov/street-div/holes.shtml>.

I've used this method before and it's great because updates on the status of the repair are e-mailed directly to you.

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Mark Your Calendars!

Next month, I am hosting two neighborhood events for constituents in Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa. These events give you an opportunity to discuss issues with me in person, or just swing by and say hello! Refreshments will be served.

Scripps Ranch residents are invited to join me on **Thursday, April 14, 2005** from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Scripps Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive. Mira Mesa constituents are invited to attend on **Wednesday, April 20, 2005** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Mira Mesa Library, 8405 New Salem Street. Hope to see you there.



Scripps Ranch CERT Receives Donation

I was so pleased to present a \$1,500 donation to the Scripps Ranch Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) at the group's meeting on February 28, 2005. The donation was provided by Dick Palmer, chairman and CEO of the Associates Group, and his employees.

I recommended the donation go to CERT since the group is such a vital part of the volunteer network in Scripps Ranch. I am proud that this community took the initiative to form a CERT team after 312 homes were destroyed in the Cedar Fire in October 2003.

I would like to commend the 32 residents who have volunteered to complete the training required to join this wonderful program. The team continues to look for new volunteers. Their goal is to have 200 trained volunteers to assist if a natural disaster or terrorist attack affects our community.



Scripps Ranch is known for its ability to look out for the needs of all residents and the CERT team is just one more example of that amazing "can-do" spirit that makes Scripps Ranch a truly unique place to live.

For more information about CERT, contact my office at (619) 236-6655 or CERT president Ed Holler at (858) 549-2086.

Councilmember Brian Maienschein and Coldwell Banker CEO Dick Palmer present the donation to CERT president Ed Holler at the group's meeting on February 28, 2005.

RB Residents Consider Proposal to Increase MAD Assessment

Community leaders in Rancho Bernardo are very hopeful that a re-ballot effort to increase the assessment for operating the Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) will bring about different results than the first ballot measure, which failed last year. Help us keep Rancho Bernardo beautiful!

The Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) provides services such as sidewalk sweeping, maintaining street medians and public right-of-ways and street median lighting. Each homeowner is assessed a small annual fee to cover the cost of these services which are not provided by the City. The current assessment for Rancho Bernardo is approximately \$7 a year and has not increased for several years. The ballot measure would increase the assessment to approximately \$15 annually.

Due to the rising costs of water and labor, it is necessary to increase the assessment to pay for existing services. A ballot measure to increase the assessment last year failed due to opposition from large commercial property owners. The failure led to a funding shortage of approximately \$40,000. As a result, many MAD services were reduced. Generous donations from local businesses and the community provided much-needed financial support to keep the MAD operating.

New ballots were mailed to all households in Rancho Bernardo in late March. You have 45 days to fill out the ballot and mail it in. Every ballot is important, so please remember to vote!

Maienschein Cuts Ribbon For Parking Lot at Senior Center

On Wednesday, March 16, 2005 the new and improved parking lot opened at the Mira Mesa Senior Center on Mira Mesa Boulevard. The 32,000-square-foot lot features an additional 38 parking spaces, bringing the grand total to more than 140 spaces. The expanded parking lot will help accommodate visitors to the center, as well as the police storefront and Teen Epicentre.

The total project cost was \$593,000. Of this amount, \$135,000 came from my Council District's Community Development Block Grant funds, and \$376,000 came from the Mira Mesa Community Fund. This money could have gone to ANY community project. The community leaders chose this project because of its importance to the seniors and teens in Mira Mesa.

Special recognition needs to be given to the members of the Mira Mesa Stakeholders, Mira Mesa Town Council, the Senior Center and the Epicentre, for all of their input and decision-making that went into completing this project.

I also want to thank Marvin Howell of Hanson Aggregates for raising and coordinating all of the labor and material donations from his company, as well as California Commercial Asphalt and D Trucking.

We began this project over three years ago and as you can see, we have created a project that is beneficial for everyone and the result is something we can be really be proud of!



Councilmember Maienschein cuts the ribbon at the newly expanded parking lot at the Mira Mesa Senior Center. He is pictured with (from left to right): Ted Medina of the City's Park & Recreation Department; and volunteers with Mira Mesa community groups: Chuck Sweet, Debbie Vincent, Brad Buffett, Bruce Brown, Tom Derr, Marvin Howell, Robin Stutsman, Barbara Peluso, John Malo, Pam Stevens and Verne Goodwin.



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<http://www.sandiego.gov/city-council/district-5>

From my website, you can also sign up to receive **e-News from MAIENstreet** every month via e-mail.

It's a pleasure to serve you on the San Diego City Council!